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The use of ict in teaching English grammar in secondary schools

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ABSTRACT

Nowadays, in every aspect of our life information, communication and technology (ICT) are playing a vital role. Even in the field of education the technological developments have shown great impact on the learners to become innovative and a source for motivating tool towards learning. ICT is often used to talk about computers and other technology use in schools. There are many ways to involve ICT in language teaching. In this article, we discuss the role of ICT and ways of using of ICT in teaching English Grammar in secondary schools.

Key words. ICT, Information, Communication, Technology, English grammar teaching, secondary school.

1. INTRODUCTION

We know that grammar has been taught in various ways throughout the history of language learning. In the 19th century grammar was the most important part of learning a foreign language; in contrast, today grammar is to being taught through integrating ICT as it has positive effects on foreign language teaching and learning. ICT stands for Information Communications Technology. It is often referred to as only IT, but the C is added to underline the communicative aspect of the term. According to Kent (2004) "ICT in education point of view refers to Information and Communication Technology such as computers, communications facilities and features that variously support teaching learning and a range of activities in education. Estling Vannestal (2009:17) lists several benefits of using ICT in the language classroom. First of all, ICT helps to create more variation in the classroom, which might lead to increased motivation in the pupils and thus better conditions to learn the target language. As the Internet is full of free, authentic and up-to-date materials that language teachers can use in their teaching. The Internet provides a good opportunity for students from all over the world to interact with each other through emails, online calls or in a chat room. Despite what the means of communication chosen, ICT is likely to help develop the understanding of other cultures in the pupils that participate. The use of ICT also gives the pupils an opportunity to write for others rather than only for their teacher or peers. If their production is posted on a blog, it has the potential to be read by a large audience, and this could help assure that the pupils put more effort into their work. Estling Vannestal (2009:18) states that ICT can help adapt the teaching to the individual level of the pupil. Pupils who achieved well can receive more advanced tasks while pupils who underachieve can benefit from work more suitable to their level. Also, pupils who have learning disabilities can greatly benefit from the use of ICT. There are great number of computer resources produced especially with such pupils in mind, for instance texts with an easier language or more images and colours.

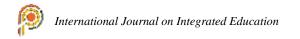
2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Uzbekistan has included ICT as one of the curricula in its education. The Methodology of English has started a new way of using ICT in teaching. The integration of ICT provides more opportunities in language teaching and learning.

In all schools teachers of English integrate computer technologies in the classrooms in our country. Schools provide computers, all equipments to integrate into education. It benefits English language learners in schools in order to compare with more traditional ways of teaching grammar. We agree with what Jämterud (2010:13) discusses about the teacher's key role in involvement of ICT in the teaching. He states that the school needs to teach pupils how ICT can help their learning process, but that is not simple if the teachers themselves are not helped by it. Computer Assisted language learning (CALL) is defined as "Any process in which a learner uses a

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computer and as a result improves his or her language and it covers the wide range of current practice in the field." Computer Assisted language learning(CALL) software, CD-ROMS, and Office software applications have become common place in many teaching and learning environments.

According to Jeremy Harmer (2007), "a word innovation means something new, which means new ideas to change things for better." He claims that "if we look at all the language teaching methods which are used all over the world by different teachers at different levels, we cannot say that all of them are 100% successful. Therefore it is very important to keep looking and searching to find ways to make teaching and learning better. The use of ICT in language teaching and learning bring positive effects:

Audio-visual aids in teaching English grammar

The use of audio-visual aids has become inevitable. It has started a new genre in the field of teaching and learning language. Apart from traditional teaching teachers must adopt the topical and innovative teaching techniques according to teaching grammar context.

- 1. The use of AVA makes the students active participants.
- 2. Pupils can get rid of their boredom and dullness in the class.
- 3. AVA provides attentiveness and enthusiasm.
- 5. AVA gives clarification about the content in the text book.

The use of over head projectors/slides in teaching English grammar

To make ideas explicit we need some visual aids. Slides and slide projectors are used for unveiling objects in full of colour. Over head projectors are used in language teaching and learning to supplement the black-board.

The use of tape-recorder in teaching English grammar

This is useful for teaching grammar, pronunciation, stress and intonation as well. Recorded information can be reproduced in the classroom. It gives a chance to the students to develop interest towards pronunciation. It helps the students to test their speaking skills and do various grammar tasks.

The use of Television in teaching English grammar

One of the most efficient medium for teaching English grammar is television. The television appeals both to the ears and eyes. We can record some language teaching English grammar programmers in CD or Cassettes and can telecast them. This shows significant impact on the minds of the students. Radio and television give us the experience of real world into the classroom. Here teaching is very active process. Television is a companion, entertainer and instructor.

The use of film in teaching English grammar

Communicative grammar knowledge/skills can be acquired/developed through films which have lasting effect. We can project some educational films, dramas, songs to teach grammar effectively. This can develop the listening and speaking skills of the students.

The use of mobile-phones in teaching English grammar

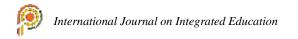
Integrating mobile phone in the classroom has also become very essential tool for learning a language. It is a mini computer in every one's pocket. Mobile phones function in many ways like the addition of texting, email, functions etc as computers do. In mobile phone assisted language learning we can find portability, social interactivity, community, individuality and immediacy to develop grammar competences.

The use of ICT has positive effects on foreign language teaching and learning.

- 1. Pupils become more innovative with the help of technologies.
- 2. ICT provides the information to the pupils which will be useful for them to compete in today's competitive world.
- 3. English grammar lessons that incorporate multimedia applications can exert powerful motivation and provide bored pupils with exciting new ways to learn.
- 4. ICT can make pupils and teachers work with up-dated and authentic resources.
- 5. ICT promotes collaborative learning by doing various grammar tasks.
- 6. Pupils can develop grammar competences independently out of the classroom.

3. CONCLUSION

We can conclude the teacher is the most important person who integrates ICT in the classroom so that the pupils learn guidance in how to use it in their learning. The pupils might use computers out of the



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classroom; however integrating ICT into education is motivational tool which increases positive effects on foreign language teaching and learning. It provides quality of learning materials and creating learning autonomy as well.

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